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PROPOSAL

1. That the U. S. conduct an intensified propaganda campaign designed to sponsor world-wide revulsion against the established Communist techniques of indoctrination and forced confession.

OBJECTIVES

2. The following objectives are sought by this proposal:

a. To provide a dramatic, offensive propaganda theme designed to promote abhorrence of Kremlin Communism and its practices.

b. To counter effectively the Communist propaganda technique of the "forced confession."

c. To prepare the world, and particularly the U. S. public, for the possibilities that:

(1) Some repatriated UN captured personnel will return effectively indoctrinated by the Communists.

(2) Some UN captured personnel actually may not wish to be repatriated.

(3) The Chinese and North Korean Communists may claim that certain UN captured personnel may not wish to be repatriated, citing statements, motion pictures, and tape recordings obtained through Communist indoctrination techniques.

d. To test the existing capabilities of U. S. psychological warfare agencies and the coordination thereof.

DEFINITIONS

3. For the purposes of this study, the following "working" definitions are used to describe the established techniques of Communist indoctrination:

a. "Brain-washing" is defined as the "calculated psychological attempt to destroy a man's previously-established moral codes, religious and political beliefs, and personal associations, and to supplant these with rote adherence to Communist dogma."

86566

**TOP SECRET**

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**TOP SECRET**  
Security Information

b. "Brain-changing" is defined as the "successful completion of the 'brain-washing' process."

c. "Forced confession" is defined as the "calculated extraction, for propaganda purposes, of statements against one's interest through psychological and/or physical torture."

(NOTE: This technique may be an "end" in itself for propaganda purposes, or it may serve as but an integral "step" in the process of "brain-washing.")

d. "Mendicide" or "mind-murder" are descriptive terms designed as "catch-words" for popular consumption. They are defined as the sum character of the whole Communist indoctrination process outlined in subparagraphs "a", "b", and "c" above.

#### DISCUSSION

4. The Kremlin-developed techniques of "brain-washing," "brain-changing" and "forced confessions" are clearly established as integral elements or progressive graduations of Communist indoctrination. In sum, these indoctrination methods represent the "premeditated murder of men's minds."

5. If clearly understood, such techniques are morally and psychologically repugnant to all peoples, Communist-slave or free. By emphatically identifying "mind-murder" or "mendicide" as the very basis of Communist indoctrination and control the U. S. may turn man's natural and moral abhorrence against Communism itself.

6. Beyond patently false denial, there is no reasonable or effective defense the Communists can make against the proposed propaganda campaign. There already exist and/or are readily obtainable voluminous materials concerning the techniques and extent of Communist "brain-washing" and "forced confessions."

7. The nature of "mind-murder" is dramatic and its disturbing nature can be effectively exploited among philosophers, priests, and peasants alike.

8. Further, the vivid exposure of Communist "mendicide" techniques will successfully undermine the propaganda effectiveness of that Communist "work-horse" -- the confession."

**TOP SECRET**  
Security Information

86566

**TOP SECRET**  
Security Information

a. Specifically, the proposed campaign represents the most effective single U. S. counter-propaganda weapon to combat the current Communist bacteriological warfare charges. It will succeed in this purpose by:

(1) Exposing the morbid mechanics of the Soviet-inspired "Confession" technique with specific reference to Air Force officers

(2) Shifting the world's attention from the stale EW charges to the fresh U. S. campaign, i.e., from the [REDACTED] confessions to the abhorrent process by which they were obtained.

b. Also, the proposed campaign will assist in exploiting the recent Czechoslovakian "purge trials" by:

(1) "Highlighting" the techniques by which [REDACTED] and Co. were forced to confess

(2) Exposing the violently anti-Semitic tone of the "confessions" as dictated verbatim by the Kremlin.

9. The third objective, i.e., to prepare public opinion for actual or claimed successes of Communist indoctrination of UN PWs, cannot be avoided, no matter how sensitive a problem it may appear.

To date, the ugly spectre of American PWs having been "brain-washed" has received but sporadic attention. Because of feared public reaction against the UNC position on repatriation, U. S. public information and foreign information agencies have aped the ostrich and buried their collective heads in the sands of irresolution.

10. Publicizing the Communist techniques of "mankicide" may give rise to further cries for the immediate return of captured Americans, "at any cost." This fear, however, is far out-balanced by the long-term international advantages of prosecuting the program.

11. The U. S. must not delay this program until after the conclusion of the Korean truce negotiations (in order to avoid the problem raised in paragraph 9 above) for the following reasons:

a. There are no tangible indications that the Kremlin wishes to conclude the Korean conflict in the near future.

**TOP SECRET**  
Security Information

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b. Presently unable to effect immediate increase of conventional military pressure upon the Communists, the U. S. must increase all other pressures, including the psychological.

c. Turning European, Asiatic, the Middle Eastern opinion against Communist tactics will harden the attitude of those areas against compromise on the truce negotiations and materially support the U. S. position within the UN and at Panmunjom.

d. A major facet of the continually mounting Communist "Hate America" campaign is a direct outgrowth of the Korean fighting, i.e., the bacteriological warfare charges. The danger of this Communist propaganda must be met immediately, not in the future.

e. The Department of the Army feels the necessity for public information releases now of material concerning the indoctrination of American captured personnel, for the following reasons:

(1) To prepare psychologically the American public for the possibilities outlined in paragraph 2, sub-paragraph "C", above.

(2) To forewarn U. S. troops of the aims and methods of Communist indoctrination.

f. The November Czechoslovakian "purge trials" will add impetus to this program, providing the campaign is initiated immediately while the Czechoslovakian trials are still "news."

12. Regarding the fourth objective (paragraph 2, sub-paragraph "d" above), the program envisaged demands an all-out, all-inclusive propaganda campaign. The U. S. must exploit every available device and channel. Such a program will demonstrate whether the U. S., like the U. S. S. R., can sustain an effective psychological campaign.

#### OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

13. For the proposed campaign, the following operational responsibilities are envisaged:

a. Department of State will be responsible for:

(1) Coordinating the overt aspects of the over-all international program.

**TOP SECRET**  
Security Information

**TOP SECRET**  
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(2) Utilizing to the fullest extent possible the facilities of the IIA. *→ International Information Administration*

(3) Collecting all intelligence materials available to State concerning Communist indoctrination.

(4) Interviewing civilian escapees from Soviet-controlled areas who have:

- (a) Witnessed Communist indoctrination
- (b) Been "brain-washed"
- (c) Been Communist-trained in this field

(5) Obtaining clearances to use copyrighted materials on this subject.

(6) Preparing overt psychological warfare materials for use through IIA.

(7) Providing the Department of Defense with necessary materials in support of their operations.

(8) Sponsoring official U. S. statements from U.S. agencies other than the Department of Defense.

(9) Gaining support for this program from:

- (a) Foreign governments
- (b) Foreign and U. S. scientific and medical groups.

(10) Exploiting this program through all official and unofficial international forums, including the UN.

(11) Documenting a legal brief for the establishment in international law of the crime of "mendicide" (similar to U. S. efforts to establish the international crime of "genocide" after World War II).

b. Department of Defense will assume responsibility for:

(1) Supplying the Department of State with all available intelligence materials.

(2) Interviewing Chinese and North Korean PWs, U.S.S.R. or Satellite defectors or already returned UN captured personnel who have:

**TOP SECRET**

**TOP SECRET**  
Security Information

- (a) Witnessed "brain-washing"
- (b) Been "indoctrinated"
- (c) Been Communist-trained in this field
- (3) Conducting, through CINCPAC, overt psychological warfare operations in FECOM in support of this program.
- (4) Informing the U. S. public, through OPI and the Services public information branches, of all feasible aspects of Communist indoctrination as related to captured U. S. personnel.
- (5) Indoctrinating U. S. military personnel.
- (6) Informing, through the U. S. military missions, foreign military officials of all aspects of the Communist indoctrination of PWs.
- (7) Sponsoring official statements from the Department of Defense and/or the Services.
- c. Central Intelligence Agency will assume responsibility for:
  - Supplying the Departments of State and Defense with all feasible intelligence materials.

CONCLUSIONS

- 14. It is concluded that the proposed campaign:
  - a. Would achieve the objectives outlined in paragraph 2 above.
  - b. Must be inaugurated now to be effective and must be conducted on the most intensive scale possible.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 15. It is recommended that:
  - a. The proposed program be approved.
  - b. It be forwarded to POC for approval and implementation.

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86566

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NOTICE

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TO—	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S FULL NAME	COMMENTS
		RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. TSCA PY/AEXD				25X1A	
2. 2/PY/Prop PY/EXO		17 Feb	18 Feb		1-2: May I have your informal comments on this plan <del>from</del> by 18 Feb. This is to be disseminated in P.O.E.C.
5. PP/PP/PLK		1018	18 1953		
6.					
7. EA/DC			2/24		
8. ER			2/25		
9. CPP PP/PP/PLK		1018	MAR 2 1953		
10. PY/EXO		1060			
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